



Department of  
Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Land & Water Quality January, 2004

## O&M Newsletter

A monthly newsletter for wastewater discharge licensees, treatment facility operators and associated persons

### Certification News

Every certified wastewater operator should receive a letter from us soon, if you have not already received one. For those of you with even certification numbers, the letter is your renewal notice for 2004. For those with odd certification numbers, the form is a reminder. Both forms will be accompanied by a sheet showing our records of the training you have taken toward your next renewal.

If your certification is due for renewal in 2004, you must return the renewal form, with a check or money order for \$20.00. If we show that you have taken the required 18 hours of training, this is all you need to do. If you have taken training that we do not show on the form you receive, send a copy of the training certificate(s) with your renewal form. If you haven't taken the required 18 hours of training and can't get the training is before March 1, 2004, ***please*** send in the renewal form with your renewal fee and something that tells us when you expect to complete the 18 hours of training. ***If we don't hear from you by March 1, 2004, your certification will become inactive and, if you are the operator of record for your facility, you will not be able to legally sign the DMRs or 49 Forms for March.***

The Spring wastewater operator certification exam will be given on May 12, 2004 in the usual locations. Applications must be postmarked by March 27, 2004 or hand delivered to the Augusta office on March 29, 2004.

### For Practice

1. Why must samples collected for BOD testing after chlorination be dechlorinated before running the BOD test?
  - a. Chlorine reacts with the buffer solution.
  - b. Chlorine reacts with calcium ions
  - c. Chlorine can kill the microbes that take up the oxygen in the BOD test.
  - d. Chlorine interferes with algae growth.
2. A gasoline fire is best put out by adding
  - a. Carbon dioxide
  - b. Air
  - c. Water
  - d. Grease
3. Flow equalization tanks holds 60,000 gallons. What should the discharge from the tank be to ensure that the water in the tank is released evenly over a 12-hour period?
  - a. 36 gpm
  - b. 55 gpm
  - c. 68 gpm
  - d. 83 gpm
4. Colloidal particles are
  - a. Particles that settle very rapidly.
  - b. Particles that do not settle readily.
  - c. Particles that settle after an hour.
  - d. Particles that readily dissolve.

## Approved Training

December 9, 2003 in Presque Isle, ME – Safety/Security Screening of wastewater for toxicity & Simplifying your Wastewater Process Monitoring - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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February 19, 2004 in Presque Isle, ME - Electric Motor Fundamentals, Application & Troubleshooting - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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February 24, 2004 in Brewer, ME - Utility Safety Essentials for Working around Electricity, Gas & Dig Safe - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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February 25, 2004 in Augusta, ME - Water Bureau Issues Briefing - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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February 26, 2004 in North Vassalboro, ME - Electric Motor Fundamentals, Application & Troubleshooting - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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March 3,4,5, 2004 in Portland, ME O & M of Wastewater Collection Systems - Sponsored by JETCC/NEIWPCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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March 9, 2004 in Bangor, ME - Pipe Maintenance for Root & Clay Infiltration - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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March 16, 2004 in Calais, ME - BOD, Seeded BOD, E.Coli, Solids Microscopic Examination - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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March 18, 2004 in Augusta, ME - SCADA System Management & Maintenance - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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March 19, 2004 in Lincoln, ME, Math Review for Process Control in Activated Sludge, Lagoon & Fixed Film Operations - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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March 23, 2004 in N. Vassalboro, ME - pH, ISE & Dissolved Oxygen Probes - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 3 hours.

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March 23, 2004 in N Vassalboro, ME - How to Read my WET Test Report - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 3 hours.

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March 24, 2004 in Portland, ME - pH, ISE & Dissolved Oxygen Probes - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 3 hours.

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March 24, 2004 in Portland, ME - How to Read my WET Test Report Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 3 hours.

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April 13, 2004 in Bangor, ME - New Technologies for Phosphorus Removal - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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May 10, 2004 in Hallowell, ME - Operation, Troubleshooting, & Upgrade of Municipal and Industrial Lagoons *with Dr. Michael Richard* - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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May 11, 2004 in Hallowell, ME - Identification of Filamentous Organisms in Activated sludge *with Dr. Michael Richard* - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

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May 20, 2004 in Livermore Falls, ME - Residuals Management & Storage Options with Proven Beneficial Uses for Biosolids (*followed by a round of golf*) - Sponsored by JETCC, (207) 253-8020 – Approved for 6 hours.

### **Answers to *For Practice*:**

1. c. Chlorine can kill the organisms that use the oxygen in the BOD bottle. Since the BOD test measures the amount of oxygen used by those organisms, killing them will cause the test to be inaccurate.
2. a. Carbon Dioxide extinguished the fire by starving it of oxygen. Water should not be used because gasoline floats on water and can cause the fire to spread. Air or grease would actually increase the intensity of the fire.
3. d.  $60,000 \text{ gallons} / 12 \text{ hours} / 60 \text{ minutes/hour} = 83.33 \text{ gallons/minute} \cong 83 \text{ gpm}$
4. b. Colloidal particles are almost the same density as water and, therefore, settle very, very slowly.